



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 0329-0009.01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
Ulrich Müller, et al.)
Serial No.: 10/677,880)
Filed: October 2, 2003)
Examiner:)
Art Unit:)
For: FLATNESS MEASUREMENT SYSTEM)
FOR METAL STRIP)

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Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. The documents listed on Page 1 of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A include those documents that were cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in the parent application, Serial No. 09/034,481, filed March 4, 1998, which is being relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of those documents are not being submitted herewith. If copies of such documents are

not available to the Examiner or are otherwise required, Applicant will gladly provide them. The additional pages of Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B include newly submitted references Nos. 1-26, of which copies are included.


No inference should be drawn that the attached list sets forth a comprehensive investigation of the prior art, that any or all are pertinent to the invention, or that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention.

The citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

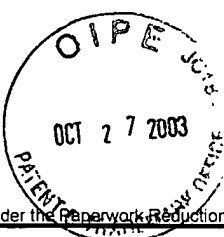
Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee under 37 CFR 1.97(c) is required. If it is determined that a fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,


Andrew G. Kolomayets
Registration No. 33,723

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PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 1 of 4

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/677,880
Filing Date	October 2, 2003
First Named Inventor	Ulrich Muller, et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	0329-0009.01

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 3,731,508	05/08/1973	Sabatini et al.	
		US- 4,782,683	11/08/1988	Tippins et al.	
		US- 4,785,646	11/22/1988	Uekaji et al.	
		US- 4,809,528	03/07/1989	Lawson et al.	
		US- 5,016,281	05/1991	Eppler et al.	
		US- 5,085,066	02/04/1992	Komami et al.	
		US- 5,309,222	05/03/1994	Kamei et al.	
		US- 5,367,378	11/22/1994	Harding et al.	
		US- 5,488,478	01/30/1996	Bullock et al.	
		US- 5,996,384	12/07/1999	Steeper et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE OS 20 13 867	10/07/1971			✓
		JP 62-9711	01/17/1987			✓
		DE 37 21 746	01/19/1989			✓
		JP 2-229610	06/12/1990			✓
		FR 2 725 512	04/12/1996			✓

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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Sheet	2	of	4
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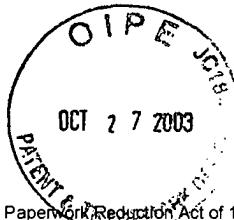
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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	9	EP 0 470 815 A1	02/12/1992	Industrial Technology Inst.		✓
	10	DE 41 42 564 A1	06/24/1993	Fa. Carl Zeiss		
	11	WO 94/05968 A1	03/17/1994	John M. Fitts		
	12	FI 950748	08/18/1996	Spectra-Physics Visiontech		

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Sheet 3 of 4

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	13	LIPPINCOTT, ET AL., "Optical-Digital Detection of Dents and Scratches on Specular Metal Surfaces," Applied Optics, August 15, 1982, pp. 2875-2881, Vol. 21, No. 16.	
	14	PIRLET, R, ET AL., "A Noncontact System for Measuring Hot Strip Flatness," Iron and Steel Engineer, July 1983, pp. 45-50,	
	15	H. MARGUERRE, "Automatisierte Qualitätsprüfung glanzender Oberflächen an Gebrauchsgegenständen durch strukturierte Beleuchtung," Feinwerttechnik & Messtechnik 93, 1985, pp. 35-37.	
	16	"Hot Strip Mill Profile and Flatness Study - Phase I," Association of Iron and Steel Engineers," October 1986, pp. 10-13 and 31-33.	
	17	"Hot Strip Mill Profile and Flatness Study - Phase II," Association of Iron and Steel Engineers," July 1989, pp. 59 and 108.	
	18	DITZHUIJZEN, ET AL., "36 Performance Increase of Hot Strip Mills After Renovation," Dimensional Control in Rolling Mills, September 11-13, 1990, Imperial College, London, UK, pp. 321-333, Vol. 1.	✓
	19	BREUCKMANN, B., ET AL., "Sensoren und Geräte für die 3D-Meßtechnik," Fertigungsmesstechnik, 1992, pp. 383-386, Verlag, München.	
	20	GMA-Bericht 23, "Optisches Messen von Länge und Gestalt," (Manuskripte der Beiträge zum VDI/VDE-Aussprachetag, 11 und 12, October 1994, Düsseldorf, Germany.	
	21	KANTOLA, PEKKA, ET AL., "A New Solution to Flatness Measurement," Steel Times, August 1995, pp. 296, 298, Rautarukki Oy, Finland.	
	22	VASCOTTO, MARCO, "High Speed Surface Defect Identification on Steel Strip," MPT International, April 1996, pp. 70, 72-73, Trento (TN), Italy.	

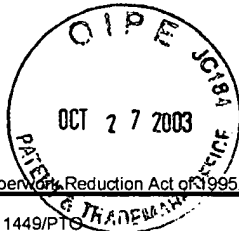
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	23	BREUCKMANN, BERND, ET AL., "Industrielle Praxis der topometrischen 3D-Messtechnik," (Industrial applications of topometrical 3D-metrology) pp. 195 and 200.	
	24	BREUCKMANN, BERND, ET AL., "Bildverarbeitung und optische Messtechnik in der industriellen Praxis," , Franzis', pp. 124-154.	
	25	GERSPACHER, PIRMIN, ET AL., "Berührungslose Ebenheits-prüfung und Oberflächen-inspection," Vol. 12, pp. 256, 265, and 275.	
	26	BREUCKMANN, "Prospekt optoSIS S/S Oberflächen-Inspektions-System.	

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